(H) State Administration

Re: HB 397

February 14, 2011

DATE 397

Dear Chair and members of the committee, for the record my name is Mike Fellows and I live in Missoula. I'm chairman of the Montana Libertarian Party and I rise in support of HB 397. Education is important. This legislative session we have heard mostly about kids who drop out. The only solution that this legislature has looked is to compel or force kids to stay in school. Other things like taking away driving rights or taking away the tax deduction for parents won't work either. This is why we need school choice options. We need to get parents and kids involved in the education process. In a 2008 Montana school choice survey nine out of ten Montanans (90 percent) would choose a school for their child among options that include private schools, charter schools, virtual schools, and homeschooling. I there fore urge a do pass on HB 397. Thank you for your time